selected from the group consisting of reflectivity, band gap, electrical resistance, optical absorption, magnetic susceptibility and thermal conductivity;

said alloy further characterized in that the first state comprises a single phase and said second state comprises either (1) a single phase having the same composition as said first state or (2) a plurality of phases which have substantially similar crystallization temperatures and kinetics.

Please cancel claim 9.

10. (Amended) A congruent state changeable, chalcogenide, optical memory material capable of existing in at least an amorphous state and a crystalline state, said material having a first detectable physical characteristic or properties index when in the crystalline state and a second detectable physical characteristic or properties index when in the amorphous state and being capable of undergoing a congruent state change upon the application of projected beam energy thereto, said material being of the composition:

$$Te_aGe_bSb_c$$

a, b and c being expressed in atomic percentages and selected such that, when said material is in the crystalline state, and it includes a major portion which has the same composition as the material has when in the amorphous state and a minor portion which has the composition:

$$Te_dGe_eSb_f$$

[(] d, e and f being expressed in atomic percentages [)], wherein the differences between a and d, b and e, and c and f, respectively, total no more than 16[,] atomic percent.

23-25. (Amended) A state changeable memory alloy changeable [capable of changing] from a first state to a second state in response to the input of energy, said alloy having a first detectable physical characteristic or properties index when in said first state and a second detectable physical characteristic or properties index [state] when in said second state, said alloy having the general formula $Te_{50}(GeX)_{50}$ wherein X is Sb, Sn or Bi, said alloy further characterized in that the first state comprises a single phase and said second state comprises either (1) a single phase having the same composition as said first state or (2) a plurality of phases which have substantially similar crystallization temperatures and kinetics.

REMARKS

Status

As originally filed, the instant patent application included claims 1-25. Claim 24 was cancelled in response to a restriction requirement. In the Office Action of August 9, 1991, claims 1-8 were rejected. Claims 9-23 and 25 were deemed to include allowable subject matter and would be allowed if rewritten in independent form incorporating the §112 indefiniteness suggestions of the Patent and Trademark Office. Claim 4 was only rejected as indefinite. By the instant amendment, Applicants have made each and every modification and/or amendment to the claims suggested by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Claim 9 has been cancelled and the subject matter thereof inserted into independent claim 1. The points of indefiniteness have been obviated. Therefore, Applicants submit that the claims are now in per se condition for allowance. Applicants earnestly solicit the reexamination of